

CLAIMS

Therefore, having thus described the invention, at least the following is claimed:

1        1. A computer readable medium having a program for automating the  
2 life cycle of a software application, where the software application utilizes computing  
3 resources distributed over a network, the program comprising logic configured to

4 perform the steps of:

5              creating a task list which describes how at least one stage in the life cycle is to  
6 be performed; and

7              processing the task list by a process engine to perform at least one stage in the  
8 life cycle,

9              wherein the process engine is integrated with a development environment,  
10 where the development environment is used to develop the software application.

1        2. The computer readable medium of claim 1, wherein the development  
2 environment is an integrated development environment.

1        3. The computer readable medium of claim 2, wherein the integrated  
2 development environment includes JBuilder.

1        4. The computer readable medium of claim 1, wherein the process engine  
2 includes Ant.

1        5. The computer readable medium of claim 1, wherein the software  
2 application utilizes computing resources through service providers connected to the  
3 network.

1        6.     The computer readable medium of claim 1, wherein the task list is  
2     stored in a text file.

1        7.     The computer readable medium of claim 6, wherein the text file is an  
2     XML file.

1        8.     The computer readable medium of claim 1, wherein the task list  
2     includes a first task, wherein the first task packages into a single file all files needed  
3     to run the software application.

1        9.     The computer readable medium of claim 1, wherein the task list  
2     includes a second task, wherein the second task distributes the software application to  
3     at least one remote computing resource.

1        10.    The computer readable medium of claim 1, wherein the task list  
2     includes a third task, wherein the third task executes the software application on at  
3     least one remote computing resource.

1        11.    The computer readable medium of claim 1, wherein the task list  
2     includes a fourth task, wherein the fourth task collects results from at least one remote  
3     computing resource.

1        12.    The computer readable medium of claim 1, wherein the task list  
2     includes a fifth task, wherein the fifth task removes the software application from at  
3     least one remote computing resource.

1        13.    A system for automating the life cycle of a software application, where  
2     the software application utilizes computing resources distributed over a network, the  
3     system comprising:

4           a task list editor configured to create a task list, where the task list describes  
5        how at least one step in the life cycle is to be executed; and  
6           a process engine operating on the task list to perform the at least one step in  
7        the life cycle.

1           14.     The system of claim 13, further comprising:  
2               a development environment for developing the software application, where the  
3        process engine is integrated with the development environment.

1           15.     The system of claim 14, wherein the development environment is an  
2        integrated development environment.

1           16.     The system of claim 13, wherein the process engine is Ant.

1           17.     The system of claim 13, wherein the software application utilizes  
2        computing resources through service providers connected to the network.

1           18.     The system of claim 13, wherein the task list is stored in a text file.

1           19.     The system of claim 18 wherein the text file is an XML file.

1           20.     The system of claim 13, wherein the task list includes a first task,  
2        wherein the first task packages into a single file all files needed to run the software  
3        application.

1           21.     The system of claim 13, wherein the task list includes a second task,  
2        wherein the second task distributes the software application to at least one remote  
3        computing resource.

1           22.     The system of claim 13, wherein the task list includes a third task,  
2     wherein the third task executes the software application on at least one remote  
3     computing resource.

1           23.     The system of claim 13, wherein the task list includes a fourth task,  
2     wherein the fourth task collects results from at least one remote computing resource.

1           24.     The system of claim 13, wherein the task list includes a fifth task,  
2     wherein the fifth task removes the software application from at least one remote  
3     computing resource.

1           25.     A system for automating the life cycle of a software application, where  
2     the software application utilizes computing resources distributed over a network, the  
3     system comprising:

4                 creating logic operable to create a task list which describes how at least one  
5     stage in the application life cycle is to be performed; and

6                 processing logic responsive to the creating logic, operable to process the task  
7     list to perform at least one stage in the application life cycle,

8                 wherein the processing logic is integrated with a development environment,  
9     wherein the development environment is used to develop the software application.

1           26.     The system of claim 25, wherein the development environment is an  
2     integrated development environment.

1           27.     The system of claim 25, wherein the process engine is Ant.

1           28.     The system of claim 25, wherein the software application utilizes  
2     computing resources through service providers connected to the network.

- 1        29. The system of claim 25, wherein the task list is stored in a text file.
  
- 1        30. The system of claim 25, wherein the text file is an XML file.